

CIVIL SERVICE REORGANIZATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Some months ago, it will be remembered, a Reform Act went into force for the Civil Service of British Columbia. Like the Dominion Act, the British Columbia measure provided for a reorganization of the service in the terms of a new classification system. The parallel in this respect ceased there, however, for the British Columbia Government has taken steps to carry the reorganization into effect. A special Commission of three was appointed, and has now been at work for some time. Something of its methods may be learned from the following statement which appeared recently in the *Vancouver Province*:

Unheralded, the commissioners descended yesterday on Vancouver, and ever since their

arrival have been asking questions of the numerous government employees.

The commissioners are grading the civil service and at the same time are ascertaining exactly how the departments throughout the province are operated and whether in their opinion the people are getting the worth of the offices. There are no set questions, and every man who goes on the inquisitorial rack may have some query fired at him which was prepared specially to fit his case as it may have been reported to the commissioners.

Yesterday the commissioners spent some time at the courthouse. They questioned many of the employees, and among other things found out at what hours the various employees were supposed to report for duty in the mornings. This morning the commissioners surprised every one by getting down to work themselves at the hour when every employee was supposed to be at his post. Some chiefs and subordinates were not there, it is said, and there are conjectures as to what the outcome will be.

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